

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 166

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Margaret Patterson upon being named a Super Senior by the *Morgan County News*.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee relies upon the knowledge, strength, and energy of our senior citizens who enrich our families with their love and guidance, serve as neighbors who support our community, and remind us that kindness and patience always prevail; and

WHEREAS, all senior citizens, whether actively involved in business and community affairs or quietly devoted to their families and neighbors, deserve our gratitude and respect, as they have shared with us the acquired wisdom of the ages and have shown us the meaning of integrity; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of our State's senior citizens and the many contributions they have made to our society, the *Morgan County News* staff has nominated four Super Seniors in Morgan County, paying tribute to an outstanding group of Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Patterson of Sunbright is one such estimable individual who was recently named a Super Senior; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Patterson graciously donates her time and energies as a volunteer at the Appalachia Habitat Resale Store, a store that takes in donations from local community members and resells items, with the proceeds going to support the Appalachia Habitat for Humanity, an organization that helps build homes for low-income families in Morgan and Scott counties; and

WHEREAS, with a strong passion for serving others, Mrs. Patterson also volunteers at the Barton Chapel Thrift Shop in Robbins; she is an active and devout member of Rugby Road United Methodist Church, where she is involved in making quilts for Cumberland Children's

Shelter and helps provide meals for Habitat work groups, and she also volunteers occasionally at Historic Rugby; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Patterson is no stranger to courage and conviction, remaining triumphant in unusual circumstances, particularly when her friends, who were visiting from Michigan, asked her to drive their car to dinner one night; and

WHEREAS, unable to determine at first how to release the emergency brake in her friends' car, Margaret Patterson left the car in drive, opened the door and, when she figured out how to release the brake, she was caught under the wheel, rolled out of the car, and the tire ran over her leg; and

WHEREAS, fortunately, she did not break any bones and walked away with only a few minor bruises, and she was able to laugh it off and continue on to dinner with her friends; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Patterson has long been involved with the Appalachia Habitat, but she has only been a resident of Sunbright for fifteen years, moving to the area after the winters in Michigan became too tough for her and her husband, Ralph; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Patterson enjoyed many years with her husband until his passing in 2004, and their blessed union produced several children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, following in Margaret's footsteps, her daughter, Annie Patterson, is also very active in the local community, serving as the director of the Community Development Corporation, which helps bring in funding for houses; and

WHEREAS, senior citizens are part of a timeless generation which serves as a treasured link to a community's history and traditions, and their positive contributions of courage, hard work, and unwavering devotion to family and community are immeasurable; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize Tennessee's senior citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby join with the *Morgan County News* staff in honoring and commending Margaret Patterson upon being recognized as a Super Senior, thank Mrs.

Patterson for her tireless devotion to serving the good people of Morgan County, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.